(d) the quantity of cargo and names of items handled by I.A.C. during the first half of the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINSTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Indian Airlines earned a revenue of Rs. 38.93 crores from its domestic cargo operation during the year 1986-87 as against Rs. 35.36 crores during 1985-86, resulting in an increase of about 10.0 per cent over the previous year.

(b) and (c) The total operating revenue target fixed for 1987-88 is Rs. 963.86 crores. The total operating revenue earned during April, 87—September, 87 was Rs. 446.13 crores. as against Rs. 393.90 crores earned during the corresponding period (April, 86—September' 86). This amounts to 13.25 per cent more than that earned during the corresponding period in 1986.

(d) The cargo carried during the period April to Sept. 87 was 53908 tonnes and the items carried were newspapers and periodicals, perishables. machinery and aircraft parts, textiles, medicines, electronic items, etc.

Gross irregularities thefts and molestation in Centaur Hotel

2620. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the reports in the press alleging gross irregularities in purchases, thefts of costely cameras etc. of guests, molestation of lady staff members and several violent incidents in Centaur Hotel, Delhi and whether a petition has also been received in this regard from about 100 hotel employees;

(b) if so, whether the complaint has been lodged with the police; if so, what are the findings and the following action; and

(c) what has been the role of the Hotel's General Manager in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two employees of Centaur Hotel Delhi from whose lockers costly camera and accessories were recovered by police have been suspended and departmental enquiry is in progress. In regard to the molestation of a lady staff member, a complaint has been lodged with the police and two employees involved in the incident have been suspended. Even in this case departmental enquiries are in progress. Some of the violent incidents are due to union rivalries All complaints received have been investigated by the Management.

(c) The General Manager of the Hotel is taking appropriate action against the employees who have been involved in cases of theft/violence, etc.

Road sector as industry

2621. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are planning to declare the road sector as industry; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The feasibility of treating the road sector as an industry with a view to facilitate the entry of private/public sector companies into the field and to enable them to obtain loans from financial institutions is under examination.